

304
S152

27720

Government of the Province of Saskatchewan

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEEDS AND SEED BRANCH

BULLETIN No. 44

EXPLANATIONS

OF

THE NOXIOUS WEEDS ACT

AND

SUGGESTIONS

FOR

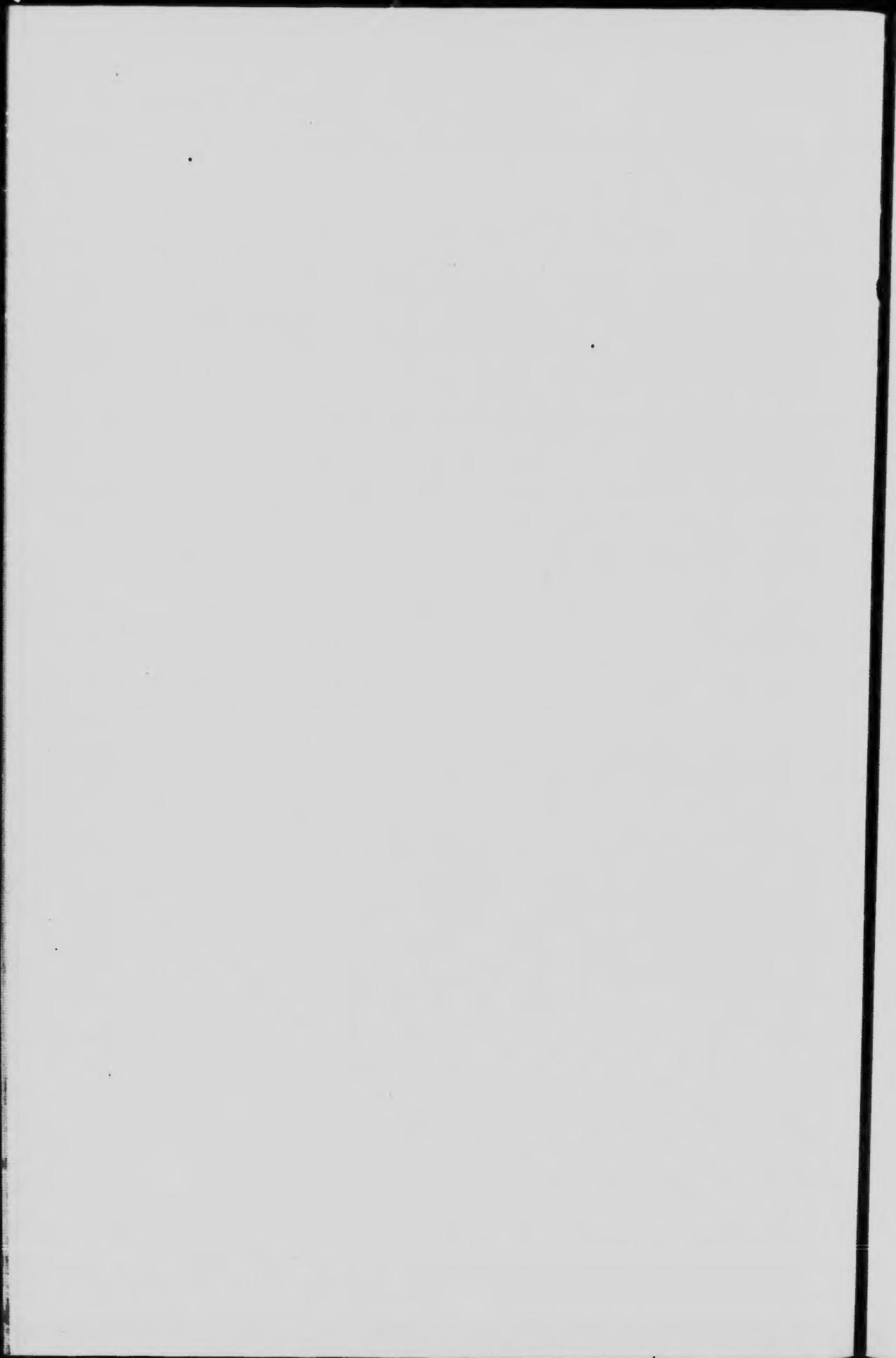
AGRICULTURAL SECRETARIES



Published by direction of
The Hon. W. R. MOTHERWELL
Minister of Agriculture

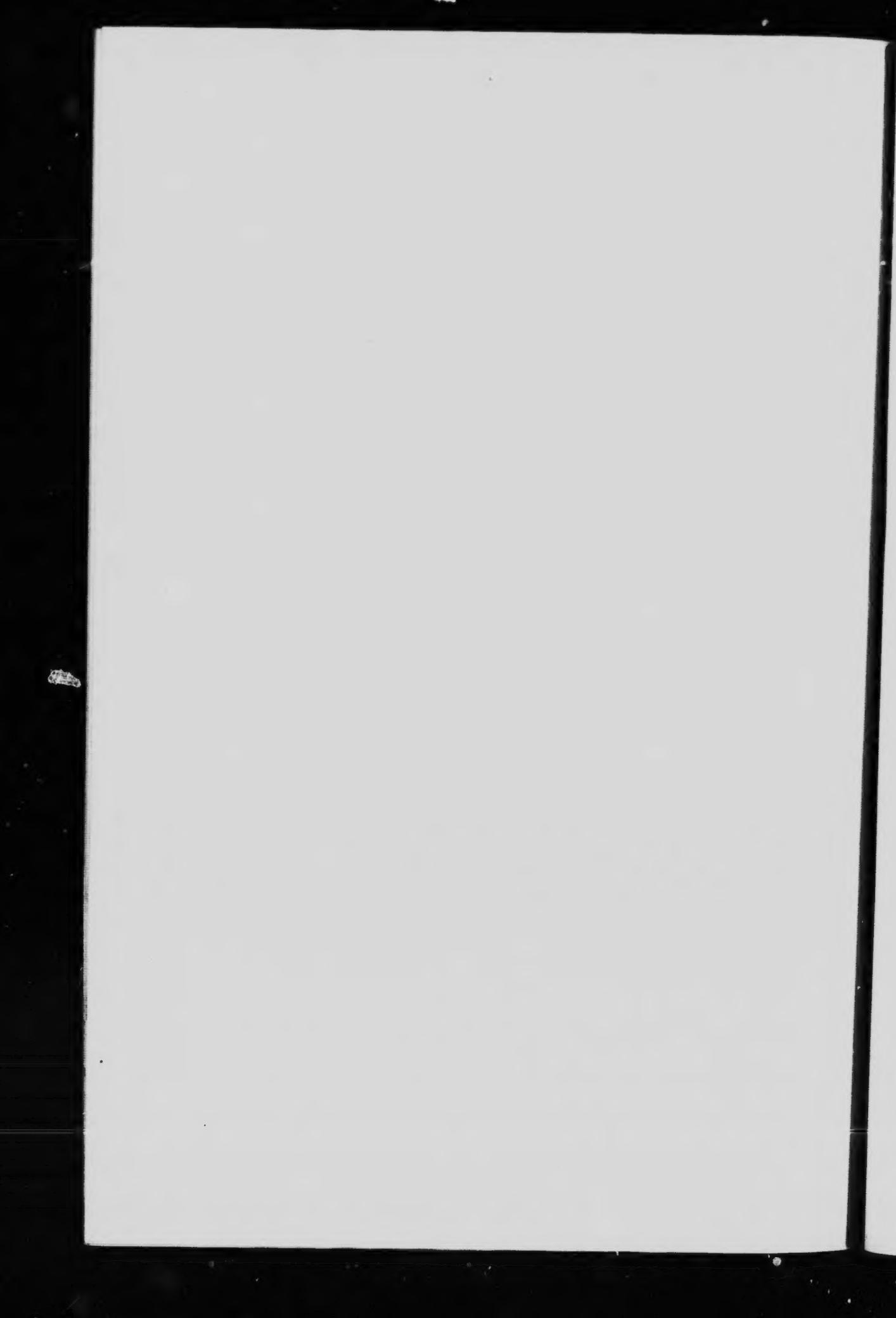
REGINA:
J. W. REID, King's Printer
1916

304
8252



INDEX

| | Paragraph No. |
|---|------------------|
| Absentee Land Owners..... | 46 |
| Annual Weeds..... | 25 |
| Adjoining Municipalities not attending Weeds..... | 85 |
| Burning Straw and Screenings..... | 7 |
| Canada Thistle..... | 47 |
| Common Weeds..... | 52 |
| Cutting Weeds in Crop..... | 7 |
| Duty of Weed Inspector..... | 58 |
| Fall Cultivation..... | 26 |
| Feed Grain..... | 17 |
| Fodders Containing Weeds..... | 43 |
| Growing Crops, Weeds in..... | 24 |
| Hand Cutting of Weeds..... | 7 |
| Identification of Weeds and Seeds..... | 57 |
| Literature..... | 56 |
| Mustard..... | 51 |
| Night Flowering Catchfly..... | 52 |
| Notices..... | 8 |
| Occupied Land..... | 10 |
| Old Weeds..... | 29 |
| Planning the Work..... | 60 |
| Prosecutions..... | 22 |
| Railways..... | 30 |
| Reports..... | 61 |
| Right of Entry..... | 66 |
| Road Allowances..... | 32 |
| Russian Thistle..... | 48 |
| Screenings..... | 18 |
| Seed Control Act..... | 93 |
| Seeding to Grass..... | 55 |
| Seed—Pure..... | 41 |
| Serving Notice..... | 23 |
| Sow Thistle..... | 47 |
| Stinkweed..... | 49 |
| Summerfallow..... | 54 |
| Tansy Mustard..... | 52 |
| Tenants..... | 45 |
| Towns and Villages..... | 36 |
| Threshing Machines..... | 37 |
| Tumbling Mustard..... | 50 |
| Unoccupied Lands..... | 3 |
| Untaxable Lands..... | 35 |
| Weeds on Land not under Crop..... | 28 |
| Weeds in Growing Crop..... | 24 |
| Wild Oats..... | 51 |
| Wormseed Mustard..... | 52 |



Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture

SUGGESTIONS

FOR

Agricultural Secretaries and Weed Inspectors

INTRODUCTION.

1. The suggestions contained herein are to be taken for what they are worth to you. We do not know all your conditions, neither are we acquainted with many of the problems that confront you in your work. We in our work come in touch with many men, and for the most part, the statements made and suggestions given herein are based on the experience of these men. We have endeavored to explain and set forth in different ways the most common problems confronting the weed inspector. We want entire sympathy between our work and yours, and our business is to give you assistance in your work. We will do the best we can, and if you have problems confronting you, in the solution of which you can find no help in this pamphlet, write us directly. *Always mention number of municipality when writing.* Do not feel that you are being neglected if your letters do not always receive an answer by return mail, because it is necessary for us to spend a great deal of time in the field if we are to be in a position to deal with your questions in an intelligent manner. If you will take the trouble to read these suggestions over carefully several times, you will be able to find in them afterwards an answer to almost any of your questions. In your work bear in mind that a man can but do his best, but that his best is expected. (See, also, No. 23.)

THE NOXIOUS WEEDS ACT EXPLAINED.

2. In enforcing The Noxious Weeds Act, only one rule can be given—"use common sense." Don't be officious, but enforce the Act a little in advance of public opinion, not necessarily for the eradication of weeds, but rather for the protection of adjoining farms. Give only what orders are absolutely necessary, and see to it that they are complied with. Never give an order that you have not the authority to carry out. (See, also, Nos. 23, 6, 58, 63.)

3. Section 2, Clause 7.—Any land within the boundary of the municipality, the owner of which does not reside in the municipality, and has no one resident in the municipality to attend to his interest may be considered as unoccupied land. See, also, the amendment to section 8, and when in doubt, give the owner the benefit and proceed

as though the land were occupied. (See, also, Nos. 10, 11, 28, 46, 76, 86, 96.)

4. Section 2, Clause 8.—The municipality is deemed to be the owner of all road allowances. The destruction of weeds on road allowances is part of the road work. The weed inspector should see that this work is done. (See, also, Nos. 32, 33, 34, 89.)

5. Section 3a.—This section makes it compulsory for every rural and urban council to appoint one or more weed inspectors and provides that such inspectors shall hold office until their successors are appointed. In other words this section provides that there shall at all times be, in every municipality some municipal officer responsible for the enforcement of the provisions of The Noxious Weeds Act.

6. Section 5.—Every owner or occupant is to use all reasonable means within his power to keep the weeds on his farm under control. This applies to tenants as well as land owners. (See, also, Nos. 2, 23, 7, 81, 91).

7. Section 6.—This section, dealing with weeds in growing crops, provides for several courses of procedure:

- (a) Where weeds are not too numerous orders should be given to have them pulled and burned. (See, also, Nos. 6, 81, 91, 24, 26, 27.)
- (b) In more serious cases order the burning of the straw and screenings, as provided under subsection (a) of the Act, or give permission to fence the straw and remove the screenings, provided that this is done in securely tied sacks; but orders should be given forbidding the removal from the farm of either straw or screenings. (See, also, Nos. 18, 44, 70, 29.)
- (c) In very bad cases it is advisable to take advantage of that part of section 6 which gives the weed inspector power, with the consent of the councillor, to order that the land be summerfallowed the following season, or, if it seems advisable, to have the field seeded down to some suitable grass or clover. (See, also, Nos. 40, 54, 55, 67, 74.)
- (d) It will be noticed that only in cases of Canada thistle or perennial sow thistle, is power given to destroy growing crops, and this is of particular value where small patches of either of these weeds are found. Whenever an inspector finds a small patch of Canada thistle or perennial sow thistle, he should immediately take steps to have it eradicated, as by so doing he is giving great protection to the farmers in the neighborhood. (See, also, Nos. 24, 25, 83.)

8. Section 6, Subsection (2).—All notices must be made in duplicate and one copy kept for reference. This is most important. (See, also, Nos. 13, 14, 21, 72, 80.)

9. Section 7.—Under this section inspectors may require such action to be taken as may be necessary to bring under control any

weeds that are found growing on any occupied land not under crop. (See, also, Nos. 28, 29, 76.)

10. Section 8.—Whenever weeds are found on unoccupied land not under crop, the inspector is to take action as indicated in this section. It gives the inspector power to do whatever common sense indicates as necessary to give the required protection to adjoining farms. Notification of any work done must be immediately sent to the owner by registered mail. Much care must be exercised in taking action under this section to avoid, as far as possible, arousing any antagonistic feeling towards weed inspection work. (See, also, Nos. 3, 10, 45, 46, 76, 86, 90.)

11. Section 8, Proviso.—Carefully note this proviso, which forms the second half of the section. It does not affect section 8, where the amount to be expended is less than \$25. It does not affect the provisions of the first part of section 8, if the owner of the said land (or other person having an interest in it) fails to notify the secretary treasurer of the municipality before May 1 of the appointment of an agent for such land. If an agent is appointed in accordance with this amendment, then such lands will really be dealt with as occupied lands, as per section 7, except that 15 days' notice must be given instead of five days. (See, also, Nos. 3, 10, 46, 76, 86, 23.) In all cases of weeds on unoccupied lands, you should, if at all possible, get in touch with the owner or mortgagee early in the season. Be sure to get in touch with your secretary treasurer right after May 1, and secure from him a list of the lands in respect to which he has received a notice under this section. This section applies specially to areas that have been broken up and have since been neglected and are breeding grounds for weeds. It is seldom advisable to destroy weeds by ploughing unless steps are taken to seed down the land as outlined in this section. (See, also, proviso to section 14.)

12. Sections 9 and 10.—In sending notices under either of these sections, as also under all other sections, care should be taken to fulfil the letter of the law. Be sure to keep the receipt received from the postmaster when registering a notice. The railways are responsible for the fireguards, as well as the right of way, and the notices should be sent both to the section foreman and the station agent of the railway company. In these cases ten to fifteen days' notice should be given. (See, also, Nos. 30, 31, 77.)

13. Section 11.—Never give a notice that will be impossible for you to carry out should it be necessary, and whenever notices are disregarded take action under this section of the Act. Of course, great care must be exercised, but in some cases much good will result if a conviction is secured under this section. (See, also, Nos. 8, 21, 14, 72, 80.)

14. Section 12.—It is highly important that steps should be taken to keep under control weeds on every farm in the municipality, and under the previous section of the Act the inspector has been given

the authority to say what shall be done. In the event of his orders having been disregarded, this section gives him authority to do himself what is in the best interests of the adjoining farms. In some cases, especially for small areas, it might be advisable to go to the extreme permitted in this section and seed to grass. (See, also, Nos. 8, 13, 21, 72, 80.)

15. Sections 13 and 14.—Any amounts that are expended under section 8 or section 12 may be recovered by action or by distress of any chattels on the land or may be charged against the land and collected as taxes. The provision in section 13 makes it possible to collect from careless and indifferent tenants. Note that in any one year no sum in excess of \$200 can be charged against any one quarter section of land. (See, also, No. 45.)

16. Section 17.—Close attention should be paid to the traffic in seed grain within the municipality, and every sample of seed grain should be properly tested before sowing. (See, also, Nos. 41, 78, 79, 82.)

17. Section 18.—Many municipalities have been seeded to weeds through the importation of and dealing in dirty feed grain, and inspectors have power to prohibit the dealing in any feed grain that contains more than 80 noxious weed seeds to the pound (5 to the ounce). Under this section the inspectors may prohibit the removal of dirty feed grain from a farm, and the bringing of dirty feed grain into the municipality by railway contractors and others. (See, also, Nos. 43, 44.)

18. Sections 20 and 21.—Special attention should be paid to the manner in which elevators are disposing of their screenings. Also prohibit, as far as possible, the practice of leaving screenings beside straw stacks after threshing is done. (See, also, Nos. 7, 44, 70, 92).

19. Section 22.—This is one of the most important sections of the Act and the stringent enforcement of this section will do a great deal of good. Inspectors are strongly advised to pay special attention this fall to this matter. A supply of threshing machine cards will be mailed to the secretary treasurer of your municipality. Note that by an amendment to The Threshers' Lien Act a thresherman who does not comply with this section has no rights under this Act. (See, also, Nos. 37, 38.)

DUTY OF WEED INSPECTORS.

20. Enlist the co-operation of every individual of influence, every board of trade, agricultural society, grain growers' association, or any other organised body in the work you are seeking to do. Plan your work in advance. This will give you time to write the department regarding problems you are in doubt as to the best ways of handling. It is your duty as an inspector to enforce the provisions of The Noxious Weeds Act, especially the following: (See, also, Nos. 6, 58, 60, 61, 66, 87, 59.)

(a) Section 5.—Every owner or occupant of land shall use all reasonable means within his power to keep under control all noxious weeds thereon. (See, also, No. 6.)

(b) Section 17.—No person shall sell for seed, cereals, clover or grass seed that is not up to the standards set forth in The Seed Control Act of Canada. (See, also, No. 16.)

(c) Section 19.—No person shall haul dirty grain across country in an open grain box.

(d) Section 21.—No person shall leave exposed for more than five days screenings containing seeds of noxious weeds. (See, also, No. 18.)

(e) Section 22.—All threshing machines and equipment must be cleaned before removal from one farm to another. (See, also, No. 19.)

The remainder of The Noxious Weeds Act is the authority of the weed inspector to take steps to correct the evils resulting from non-compliance with the above sections.

SERVING NOTICES.

21. According to section 6, subsection (2), all notices must be made in duplicate. Special book forms for this purpose can be secured from the stationery company with which your municipality does business. No special forms are required by law; ordinary business paper and common business courtesy are all that are required. In dealing with absentees and with the careless and indifferent in your district, it is always advisable to word the notice in the form of an agreement and have it signed by the party receiving the notice as well as by yourself. Under sections 7, 9 and 10, more than five days' notice can be given, if desired, by dating the notice several days in advance of the time at which it is served. (See, also, Nos. 13, 14, 31, 72, 80, 22.)

When a notice reads, "to destroy said weeds within a stated time," it means that the work is to be done by that time, rather than that the person notified has that many days in which to prepare to begin work. When a reasonable order is not complied with, don't serve another notice, but rather get someone to do the work ordered and also lay a complaint before a justice of the peace, under section 11. By so doing you will develop a feeling of respect for The Noxious Weeds Act and for your work. When you ask a man to do the common sense thing, for both his own good and for the protection of the adjoining farms, and he fails to do this, he deserves very little consideration.

When serving notice by mail always register the letter, and, as stated before, keep the receipt for the registered letter. Several inspectors have lost their cases because of carelessness in this respect. Whenever you have occasion to serve a notice, deliver it personally, and have the recipient sign your duplicate. If the owner is absent, the notice should be received and signed for by another responsible member of the family, or sent by registered mail. Attach the receipt for each registered notice to the duplicate of that notice and place both in the municipal office for safe keeping.

PROSECUTIONS.

22. The less it is necessary for you to resort to law the better. Nevertheless, when it becomes necessary to act, it is important that you know how to go about it, so as to carry the matter through successfully. Get in touch with your local justice of the peace and get from him information as to the presenting of complaints, witnesses, etc. A justice of the peace must take your case unless he has some connection with same that would tend to influence his decision. In such cases he can refuse to proceed. Under these circumstances, it will be necessary to go before another justice. There is nothing the matter with The Noxious Weeds Act. (See, also, Nos. 20, 58, 75, 87.) It contains authority to permit a weed inspector to take any reasonable action, but in prosecutions the letter, as well as the spirit of the Act must be complied with. If you contemplate prosecutions, get in touch with this department two or three weeks previous to the time you intend to act. All fines collected under The Noxious Weeds Act belong to the municipality. (See section 207 of The Municipal Act.)

FAIRNESS AND COMMON SENSE.

23. An appointment as weed inspector gives to some men an exaggerated notion of their own importance. In the hands of some a little authority is a dangerous thing. Where is there any sense displayed by a weed inspector who gives an order for the hand-pulling of weeds where the thing is physically impossible of performance? What respect should be shown a weed inspector who happens to come along late in the season and gives a man five days' notice to do some work that could not be done in a week by twenty men? Wherein is there a spark of humanity shown by the weed inspector who orders a crippled old man to pull the tumbling mustard out of his wheat and oats but does not notice the mustard on the road or in the fields of a big farmer across the road? Many illustrations of this nature can be quoted. They happened in the province during the season of 1914. The orders were not complied with and the inspector took the matter to court, but lost his case and it served him right, but it was not because of any flaw in The Noxious Weeds Act. (See, also, Nos. 2, 6, 9, 63.)

WEEDS IN GROWING CROPS.

24. It is seldom advisable to take serious steps in connection with weeds in growing crops. The proper time to do weed work is, of course, before the crop is sown; therefore, when weed inspectors are on short time and can only work during the growing season, they should be careful in dealing with weeds in growing crops, because, in a good many cases, the owner absolutely must have the crop in order to make ends meet. In such cases, provided the attitude of the man towards the weed question is right, it is advisable to make as much allowance as possible. Your business is to take such steps as will prevent the noxious weeds on one man's place being a direct menace

to the man across the road. Therefore, if the weeds in the crop are not sufficiently numerous that their presence can be detected from the side of the crop, there is little danger of weeds in that crop being a menace to the neighbouring farmer. It is understood, of course, that this statement does not apply to every case, but it contains sufficient truth to be a reason why a man should not go galloping through a crop in search of noxious weeds, as has been done too often by some over zealous weed inspector. (See, also, Nos. 7, 25, 83, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 55.)

25. In the case of annual weeds, where they are very few, a strip a couple of rods wide might be cleaned up along the edge of the field which comes up against a road allowance, as by so doing it will mean that when the grain is cut no weeds will be carried by the machinery out on to the prairie. Where weeds are too numerous to be pulled it would be advisable to order the burning of the straw and screenings immediately after threshing, or if the straw is required by the farmer, see that the screenings are burnt. Some men endeavour to get around an order for the burning of the straw by having it piled against some building. When this is done they should be taken before the justice of the peace under section 11 of the Act. It is advisable when giving such an order to specify that the straw must be so placed that it can be burned without endangering anything. (See, also, Nos. 83, 24, 7.)

26. In some cases it would be advisable to secure some form of fall cultivation as soon as the crop is off, provided, of course, that it would be possible to get this done. In many cases it may be advisable to order certain pieces of land, or portions of it, summerfallowed the following season. (See, also, Nos. 7, 40, 54, 67.)

27. In all cases of this kind, let your common sense dictate what order should be given in each particular case. Small patches of Canada thistle or sow thistle should, by all means, be ploughed, mowed or eradicated in some way, as by so doing a great deal will be saved to the neighbourhood. (See, also, Nos. 7, 68, 47.)

WEEDS ON LAND NOT UNDER CROP.

28. Of course, as noted above, your work is primarily to prevent weeds becoming so prevalent that they would be a menace to the neighbouring farms, but it would seem that in special cases where summerfalls are not undertaken early enough in the season, it would be advisable to compel a certain amount of surface cultivation. In dealing with neglected areas that have once been under cultivation, it is not advisable to plough the land unless you have sufficient funds from your council to permit of your seeding these areas to grass, as per section 8 or section 12 of The Noxious Weeds Act. Remember that in taking action under any sections of The Noxious Weeds Act, you are doing so simply to prevent the spreading of noxious weeds. It is not your business, as an inspector, to eradicate weeds. Where areas are small or not seriously infested, it will be best to spend a little extra in cleaning these areas, but with larger areas seriously

infested, the plan should be to take such action as will insure such lands going back to grass so that weeds will be unable to grow. Often it will be found cheaper to mow the land off once or twice in a season for two or three years, rather than to plough or cultivate or seed to grass. It is sometimes better to mow twice in the season rather than mow, rake and burn when the weeds have attained full growth. (See, also, Nos. 3, 10, 9, 11, 46, 76, 86, 90.)

29. New men will sometimes be confronted with weed problems that have been unattended to during the previous season, such as vacant land upon which he found tumbling mustard or Russian thistle, or straw piles still standing that are badly infested with weeds. These problems can be dealt with under section 7 of the Act. See regulation No. (b) paragraph 91, at the end of the pamphlet defining the term "growing." (See, also, Nos. 7, 9.)

WEEDS ON RAILWAY LANDS.

30. Notify the section foreman and the station agent; if possible, ten or fifteen days' notice should be given. If notice is disregarded proceed as per section 12 and write us. Small patches of Canada thistle and perennial sow thistle should be dug out from the roots. (See, also, Nos. 12, 31, 77.)

31. It should be borne in mind that employees of a railroad must of necessity be guided in their work by rules and regulations. They are not exactly at liberty to drop certain work and undertake something proposed by someone outside of their particular company. The men at the top in railway circles are just as anxious for the control of weeds as the local inspectors are. When a notice is served upon a local railway official, it is generally necessary for him to refer the matter to his roadmaster or superintendent, hence the suggestion that ten or fifteen days' notice should be given when serving notice upon railways. In cases of perennial sow thistle and Canada thistle, it would be advisable to refer the matter also to the Weeds and Seed Branch, Department of Agriculture, Regina. (See, also, Nos. 21, 72, 80, 30.)

WEEDS ON ROAD ALLOWANCES.

32. The municipal council is responsible for weeds on the roads; It is part of the road work. Where very dirty fields adjoin the road, it would sometimes be advisable to have a strip of the field a rod wide seeded to grass. This would prevent the weeds of the field spreading into the road allowance. (See, also, Nos. 4, 33, 34, 89.)

The responsibility for weeds on the roads was placed upon the municipal councils because:

- (a) In past years many councillors would undertake in one season far more road work than they were able to complete. The next year probably the division would be represented by someone else, who in turn would open up a lot of work and at the same time neglect to finish up the work started by the

previous councillor. It was thought that the placing of the responsibility for weeds on roads upon the council would have a tendency to check this sort of thing;

- (b) Many farmers complained that the weeds on the roads opposite their lands were brought there by men from other parts who passed by and that it was not right to ask any man to remedy wrong for which he was not in the least responsible;
- (c) Again, to whom do the roads belong? Certainly not to the farmer. The responsibility for the care of the roads rests entirely with the council. This section of the Act places the responsibility where it belongs.

33. The only instance wherein we are justified in placing the responsibility for weeds on the roads upon the adjoining land is in cases where that land is infested with weeds. There is a better way to handle the matter than to compel the owner of the adjoining land to cut the weeds on the road. Whether the weeds passed from the road to the fields or from the fields to the road, it is more satisfactory to have the owner of the land seed to grass a strip two or three rods wide adjoining the road allowance. This action can be taken under sections 6, 7, or 8. (See, also, Nos. 4, 32, 34, 89.)

34. In most cases, the municipality could for all time prevent the growth of weeds on new roads by seeding to grass. This could be done at an extra expense of about \$5 per mile. This is the practice in some municipalities. Persons interested should write to the Secretary, Rural Municipality of Indian Head, Indian Head, Saskatchewan. (See, also, Nos. 4, 32, 33, 55, 89.)

WEEDS ON UNTAXABLE LANDS.

35. Wherever weeds are found upon lands from which the municipality derives no revenue, their destruction must be paid for from the general revenue of the municipality. This applies to school lands, some Canadian Pacific Railway lands, road allowances, abandoned homesteads, etc.

WEEDS IN HAMLETS, VILLAGES AND TOWNS.

36. You are responsible for weeds in hamlets in your district. When you notice in towns and villages weeds that are not being attended to, write us giving particulars. You have no authority to act within the boundaries of these organisations. They must appoint their own weed inspector, so that there will be someone there with authority to act should any action be necessary, but you should make it your business to know what is being done and the need for action. Co-operate with their inspector. (See, also, No. 85.)

REGARDING THRESHING MACHINES.

37. Regarding the enforcement of the Act relating to threshing machines, I may say that cards for placing on the machines have been

mailed to your secretary treasurer. More can be secured by writing to the department. All parts of the outfit must be cleaned before moving, and this section of the Act should be strictly enforced. Probably a great deal of trouble will be saved if you interview each of the threshermen and discuss the matter with him. It seems to me that we should discourage the use of old racks with the tight bed, such as are used by many men to collect during the week a quantity of grain and chaff to take home to the chickens on Saturday night. Such proceedings should be stopped. The rack should be of a style that can be easily cleaned, probably the flat-bottomed rack with the floor pieces a couple of inches apart is the best design, as in using such a rack there will be no accumulation of chaff and weeds and such material as is gathered can easily be cleaned off. Threshing machine men who fail to comply with this section of the Act have no rights under The Threshers' Lien Act. (See, also, Nos. 19, 38.)

38. Section 22 will be hard to enforce so long as farmers as a body do not take enough interest in the matter to use it for their own protection. The thresherman is just like any other man—no better and no worse. He is not likely to be particular or careful about taking along a few weed seeds, so long as the man to whose farm he is coming does not care. When the majority of farmers ask him to clean his machine he will be only too glad to comply. There need be no dispute over the meaning of the term "clean." There is always the common sense thing to do and this section simply asks that the machine be run empty a minute or two and that the top and sides of the machine be swept clean and all stuck wagons be cleaned before the outfit leaves for another farm. This is by no means a hardship upon any owners of a machine. A couple of brooms should be carried on the outfit. With a little attention at the right time there will be little difficulty in getting the men to sweep off after the last load. A worthy separator man will sweep off the machine while the last loads are being threshed. (See, also, Nos. 19, 37.)

39. Sometimes strongly worded epistles are addressed to the department condemning section 22, because no provision is made to prevent the use of dirty straw in taking the engine to the next farm. It would seem that when the section, as it stands now, is really enforced it will be ample time for more legislation. We must remember that in many cases there is nothing else to use and the man to whose farm the machine is going has the privilege of himself furnishing fuel for the move. Many weeds are carried in this way, but not one-tenth as many as those carried by uncleaned stuck wagons. Other men want legislation to compel threshers to leave their weed screens open. Regarding this, we must agree that the operator is entitled to pay for every bushel of weed seeds he threshes. In fact, it does seem that he would be justified in putting in a good screen, taking out all the weed seeds, measuring them up when the setting is finished and then charging three prices for each bushel threshed.

40. Complaints are sometimes made about outfits crossing fields and summerfalls in taking short cuts across country. The thresher-

man who does this is an unworthy citizen, and although it is recognised that it is up to each farmer to take defensive measures in the way of good fencing, if he is to keep his farm clean, at the same time it would be doing a service to the country to prosecute such offenders under the common law for trespassing. Human nature is much the same, whether in the case of a threshing machine owner or of a railroad magnate; give either a little power and people will cry: "Legislate him! Regulate him!" (See, also, Nos. 7, 19, 37, 54, 67.)

PURE SEED.

41. The Dominion Seed Control Act applies to all traffic in seed on the part of seed companies, and to all persons advertising that they have seed for sale, but it does not apply to the ordinary transactions between farmers, hence the necessity for section 17 of our Noxious Weeds Act. This section applies to every farmer who sells another farmer grain for seed. It applies whether the grain is delivered to the purchaser or whether the purchaser comes to the premises of the owner for it. Some men attempt to evade this section by stating that they will sell the grain only as feed, intimating that, if it be used for seed, that is the business of the purchaser. This argument holds good so long as the vendor accepts feed price for his grain. If he asks and receives a seed price, then he is selling for seed and is liable under section 17 of the Act. In handling suspected violations of section 17, it is well to take and seal in the presence of the vendor and purchaser or two independent witnesses, a two-pound sample of the grain in question and forward at once to the Weeds and Seed Branch, Department of Agriculture, Regina. (See, also, Nos. 16, 78, 79, 82.)

42. For the guidance of agricultural secretaries and weed inspectors in the handling of cases coming under The Seed Control Act, sections 15, 16 and 17 of that Act are quoted at back of this pamphlet. (See, also, No. 93.)

DIRTY FODDER.

43. Section 19 of the Act does not allow the inspector to prohibit the hauling across country of oat sheaves or other fodder that is infested with noxious weeds. Legislation can not be drafted to provide for every contingency. Under section 6, the inspector can compel the burning of straw and screenings. In a crop cut for green feed there are generally very few mature seeds. The man who hauls weed-infested material across another man's fields is certainly not doing all in his power to keep his weeds under control. It is optional with the owner of the land being thus polluted to enter suit for damage. (See, also, Nos. 17, 44.)

44. In districts where cattle are allowed to run as soon as threshing is finished, the inspector should see that all weed-infested screenings are burned as provided in section 21 of the Act. If orders are not complied with, take action under section 11 and also under section 12. Hire someone to burn the screenings. There is plenty of authority

here to enable any inspector to look after the disposal of screenings from elevators. There is really no reason why a man should not take home with him the screenings from his own wheat to feed his own stock, but there is also absolutely no reason why he should be allowed to take them loose in a wagon box. (See, also, Nos. 7, 17, 18, 43, 70, 92.)

TENANTS.

45. The responsibilities of resident land owners are easily understood, but some non-resident land owners have not learned that the final responsibility for the handling of their lands cannot be passed on to tenants. Some tenants have yet to learn that they have every bit as much responsibility as if they owned the land which they occupy. If a tenant refuses to do the reasonable thing in the matter of weed control, the inspector has authority under section 12 to enter upon the land and take such action as may be expedient. The inspector has this authority regardless of any agreement, written or otherwise, between the land owner and the tenant. The amount expended in the performance of any such work may be collected (see section 13) from the tenant by suit or by seizure of chattels on the land. In the event of this being impossible because of poverty of the tenant, the amounts due will need to be charged against the land to be collected from the owner as taxes. This last resource need not be looked upon as working a hardship upon the owner because, as stated above *the owner is finally responsible*. This applies whether the owner is an individual in the same or an adjoining municipality, another province or state, or whether a land or mortgage company. (See, also, Nos. 14, 15, 46.)

ABSENTEE LAND OWNERS.

46. A great deal of trouble arises each year because of the abuse of the authority conferred in section 8. The curtailment of this authority by the amendment of this section was necessary because of lack of common sense and fair-mindedness on the part of a few municipal weed inspectors. It is all very well to say that absentee land owners are primarily and finally responsible and that is as it should be, but it is well to bear in mind the moral responsibility of the municipality and of the municipal weed inspector. The secretary or the weed inspector should get in touch with absentee land owners early in the year if there appears to be any doubt as to the handling of the land in question. Many times by so doing arrangements can be made to care for the land without further expense to the municipality. It is well to remember that an absentee owning land in your municipality is subject to the same laws of psychology as a resident owner. As a matter of fact this applies just as truly to land and loan companies. (See, also, Nos. 3, 11, 10, 76, 86, 90.)

METHODS OF CONTROLLING DIFFERENT WEEDS.

CANADA THISTLE AND PERENNIAL SOW THISTLE.

47. Fortunately, as yet, these weeds are found only in small patches, except in one or two parts of the province. Every farmer must be made acquainted with these weeds, and every small patch eradicated. Whatever happens do not permit any small patches to go to seed in your district. Have them dug out by the roots, or at least have them mowed before the seeds begin to form. (See, also, Nos. 27, 54, 68.)

RUSSIAN THISTLE.

48. All plants found on roads, waste lands and railways should be destroyed. If pulled while green, it may not be necessary to burn. It is not advisable to cut with the seythe when green, unless the second and perhaps the third growth can also be cut. If this is done there is little danger of their becoming bushy enough to blow across the country. When found approaching maturity they should be pulled and burned. When found in fields under crop the best plan is to have the straw burned immediately after threshing. It is sometimes advisable to have some surface cultivation done on the field if there is any danger of the small plants becoming growthy enough to blow across the country. (See, also, Nos. 7, 9, 26.)

STINKWEED.

49. When found in small patches in districts otherwise free of this weed, they should be pulled and burned and every effort made to eradicate them, as by so doing you will be giving good service to the country. When found in growing crops, have the straw and screenings burned. If the weed is more or less general over the country, the steps taken will have to depend altogether upon local public opinion. (See, also, Nos. 7, 9, 23.)

TUMBLING MUSTARD.

50. All roads and waste lands should be well looked after, also fields left for summerfallow but on which the work has not been done. These are the main seed beds of this mustard. That found growing in crops can do little harm to the field across the road, except in the case of the flax crop, and in handling this question, some inspectors have entered into an agreement by which the owner is to either hand-pull the tumbling mustard or bind the crop with the binder. (See, also, Nos. 7, 9, 25, 26.)

WILD OATS AND MUSTARD.

51. It is practically impossible to do much with wild oats in standing crops, and very little with wild mustard, but all straw stacks from infested crops should be either fenced or burned immediately

after threshing. In severe cases, summerfallow should be ordered the following year. Fall cultivation is advisable as it makes possible a maximum amount of germination in the early spring, and if followed by spring cultivation goes far towards cleaning a field. Where badly infested fields adjoin a road allowance or a boundary line, it might be advisable to have a strip a rod wide seeded to grass. Hand-pulling is almost impossible with the wild oat; there will be instances where it could be done to advantage in dealing with mustard. (See, also, Nos. 7, 9, 25, 26, 54.)

OTHER WEEDS.

52. Tansy mustard, wormseed and shepherd's purse are listed as noxious weeds, not so much because their presence in one field is a menace to the field across the road, but rather because the seeds are so often found as an impurity in grass seed and clover seed. It was for this reason that night-flowering catchfly was placed upon the list as noxious. It is one of the most common impurities in alsike clover seed. When finding the other weeds in the growing crops, if only a few, they should be hand-pulled as this may save trouble later. If too numerous to permit of hand-pulling, perhaps a strip a rod or two wide wherever the field touches the road or another man's land should be pulled. This will prevent the road becoming infested with weeds. In some cases where a very dirty field adjoins the road, it would be advisable to have a strip a rod wide seeded to grass, under the authority of section 6. The ordering of the burning of straw and screenings, or the fencing of the straw is the next step. The severity with which one must deal with these cases is dependent upon the prevalence of the weed in the district, and upon public opinion. The cleaner the district the more severe should the inspector be. (See, also, No. 9.)

The authority to compel summerfallowing and seeding down must be exercised with care. Fall and spring cultivation can be ordered at the time under section 7, and this is advisable in fields badly infested with annual weeds that are also strong winter annuals.

WEEDS OTHER THAN NOXIOUS.

53. There are a few weeds that do a great deal of harm, yet, because they are not upon the list as noxious weeds, little attention is given to them, such as lamb's quarters, pig weed, Russian pig weed, curled dock, sunflower, etc. When finding these weeds it should be your business to give whatever assistance you can regarding methods of treatment. (See, also, No. 9.)

SUMMERFALLOWING.

54. There is sufficient authority in The Noxious Weeds Act to enable an inspector to do anything that is reasonable, but this authority must not be abused. The authority to compel summerfallow was placed in the Act, not with the idea that inspectors would order every other field to be so treated, but that inspectors might have

means of dealing with weeds in growing crops in a common sense manner, rather than be compelled to the extreme of ordering the ploughing down of the crop. As you will note by the interpretation of the word "summerfallow," you have authority to see that the work is done properly, and as you are involving the owner in considerable expense, it is your duty to see that the work is done properly and represents good value. This section of the Act (section 6) does not give you authority to deal with fields that are to be summerfallowed this year voluntarily. You can deal with such cases if they need attention, under section 7. (See, also, Nos. 7, 26, 40.)

SEEDING DOWN.

55. This authority is given so that you can deal with small areas of waste lands more effectively—lands that under natural conditions would require several years to get back to grass. In the case of order given for either summerfallowing or seeding down, the order refers to the land and must be carried out whether or not there is a change of owners or tenants. (See, also, Nos. 34, 74.)

In cases of this nature, it is generally advisable to use timothy or western rye grass. Brome grass is better for this purpose, but if not properly handled, may create difficulties. In Bulletin 31, will be found some information of a general nature as to the habits and method of handling of the various grasses.

PUBLICATIONS.

56. The Department has a supply of bulletins dealing with noxious weeds. Write for the number you can use to advantage. We have small leaflets on perennial sow thistle, Canada thistle, stinkweed, wild oats and Russian thistle. These are intended for distribution to school children.

From time to time, one each of all new bulletins available for distribution will be mailed to agricultural secretaries. This is done so that they will know what literature is available and can therefore write for the information that will apply to the particular needs of the people. You will have to study the needs of the individual. Perhaps a bulletin on poultry will do as much good in some cases as a bulletin on noxious weeds—it will establish a point of contact. It is hardly necessary to say that before you hand a bulletin to a person you should know the nature of the information between the covers. If you do not think it is worth reading, do not give it out.

IDENTIFICATION OF WEED SEEDS AND WEEDS.

57. A seed case containing 200 seeds of common noxious plants can be obtained by forwarding \$2.00 to the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. A packet case of weed seeds containing twenty-five of the most important weeds can be secured from the Department of Agriculture, Regina, for the sum of \$1.50. With a little study it will be possible for you to identify most of the noxious weeds common in seed, but in every case where you are in doubt, forward a sample to

Regina. In as far as possible, make yourself acquainted with all the noxious weeds, so that you will know them no matter in what stage of growth you may find them. Whenever you are not sure of plants, do not fail to send a sample to Professor T. N. Willing, College of Agriculture, Saskatoon. Always number your sample when sending more than one, and always keep a similar specimen numbered likewise. Send some of the root, leaves, stems and flowers. Wrap in moist cloth or paper.

WHAT THE ACT REQUIRES OF INSPECTORS.

58. There are five places in the Act where the inspector's duty is prefaced by the word *shall*. Section 6 says that he *shall* make out all notices in duplicate. Section 7 says that when finding weeds on land not under crop he *shall* notify the owner, etc. Section 8 requires that when taking action under this section of the Act, if provisions of the new amendment have been complied with and the amount to be expended is in excess of \$25, he *shall* notify the agent appointed, giving fifteen days' notice, etc. In other cases he *shall* notify the owner immediately the work is performed. Sections 9 and 10 say that on finding weeds, as per these sections, he *shall* immediately notify, etc. (See, also, Nos. 2, 20, 66, 87.)

There are six places in the Act where the duty of the inspector is prefaced by the word *may*. Section 6 says he *may* notify the owner to fence the straw; he *may* notify him to burn the straw and the screenings; he *may* with the consent of the councillor of the division order crop destroyed for certain thistles, or the field summer-fallowed or seeded down. Under section 12, if notices are disregarded he *may* enter upon the land in question and destroy such weeds in any manner as he sees fit, and with the consent of the councillor he *may* seed the land down. Section 18 says he *may* prohibit trafficking in dirty feed grain.

59. In addition to these duties and powers set forth in The Noxious Weeds Act, another Act—The Rural Municipality Act—provides that every inspector *shall* see that the provisions of The Noxious Weeds Act are complied with in the district for which he accepted appointment, and that he is responsible for the enforcement of the Act until his successor is named. (See, sections 200 to 207 of The Municipal Act. Also, No. 20.)

GENERAL SUGGESTIONS.

PLANNING THE WORK.

60. If possible, it is advisable before starting out on the work to map out a definite route, so that you will have a fair idea as to where you will be on particular days, and it will be found that often in making out a notice you can allow the time on this notice to extend to such time as will, in the natural order of things, bring you back again to the vicinity of this particular field, which will enable you without much extra driving to see whether or not your orders regarding

this field have been carried out. Do not allow too much time. Always go first to the farmer and get him to look over the place with you. It is quite understood that it is not always possible or convenient to do this, but it is advisable to do this if at all possible. (See, also, No. 20.)

You should pay special attention to those areas within your district that are being neglected; areas which at one time have been under cultivation and later abandoned, such as old fireguards, road sides and railway rights of way.

MONTHLY REPORTS.

61. You should attend every council meeting and tell them what you have been doing since the last meeting. Watch and help the new settlers who are coming into the district. Take a note of everything that is of interest, you will find use for it some day. If you have any criticisms regarding the work of this or any other department, make it to the department concerned. (See, also, No. 20.)

62. Some men have the faculty to handle men, can get along with anybody, do the right thing and be friends with all. In agricultural work, above all other kinds of work, this faculty or lack of it is all important. If you possess this talent you need few suggestions along this line. If you have it not, it is doubtful if even a whole library of books on psychology would be of material assistance. There may be, however, a few principles underlying this work, the observance of which will be helpful, such as the following: (See, also, No. 23.)

- (a) This is a man-to-man relation and it is useless for you to go about your municipality unless you have made a success of farming by means of the methods you have followed;
- (b) You must understand the other man's point of view. Introduce a little of the Golden Rule.
- (c) You are asked to solve individual rather than collective problems. If you have 500 resident farmers in your municipality, you have 500 separate and distinct problems, such as weeds, discouragement, poor methods, lack of system, an income per family of \$200 per year when it should be \$1,000, a tendency to blame hard times on national issues without any endeavour to improve the quality of the work at home.
- (d) Some men are interested in cattle or poultry or sheep or swine. You must approach these men along the line in which they are most interested. Be a good listener. When they have told you all about how to run this or that particular branch of farming then you have them at an advantage. Some of the best farmers in the municipality will feel that they do not require your services. Perhaps not. Granted they do not, then you need theirs. In every municipality today can be found some demonstration farms run by successful farmers, but the less successful men do not seem to see the matter in this light. It should be part of your work to study the methods of successful men, and help to apply these methods to the farms of men less successful. It always does

more good to outline the methods of Mr. Jones, who, as everybody knows is the most successful man in the district, than it does to outline your methods. You can use the results on your farm to corroborate the results obtained by Mr. Jones.

63. Don't run a bluff either as to your authority or as to your fund of information. You have under the Noxious Weeds Act ample authority if you know the Act, but don't flout it in any man's face. If you are asked questions you are unable to answer, acknowledge the fact, and give the information to the questioner as soon as possible. It's your business to know the contents of every bulletin and pamphlet forwarded to you, thereby enabling you to either give direct information or secure the information that will satisfy the questions. (See, also, No. 23.)

64. The more you know of a man's actual position the easier it will be to approach him. Know how much land he owns, where it lies, how much of a mortgage, if any, is against it; how much he raises, how much he ought to produce, the lines of work in which he takes most interest, his attitude towards you and towards agricultural work; how much stock he has or ought to have according to his position, and his particular ability. Knowing all these things will make it possible for you to have a long talk with some of your men who are not as successful as they should be, and analyse thoroughly with them their work and determine with them why they are not more successful, and what is really the matter. Of course, many reasons will be advanced for lack of success, but even if all these men were relieved of these so-called disadvantages, it would help, but it would not cure. The real factor today is inefficiency in all lines, poor cultivation, waste over buying, thoughtless selling, lack of quality in the produce, etc. A thorough analysis of a year's operations will give much food for thought.

65. Your success as an agricultural secretary depends upon the extent to which you prove yourself the best man in the municipality—to assist you it will be necessary for you to gather all the information, as suggested above, regarding your men. Classify this information in a dozen different ways. Always carry with you a small note book and take note of everything that is or may be of interest. Besides this have a note book for each township. A book of 36 sheets, one for each section of land in the township can be secured from the Saskatchewan Stationers, Regina. The price quoted is three books for \$1.00. Every item of interest, every bit of information, assistance, or any action regarding any section or family, make note of them all according to section number. This information will be invaluable in dealing with particular individuals and particular problems. It will be of material assistance in demonstrating to your council and the ratepayers your actual worth to the municipality.

FREQUENT QUESTIONS AND THEIR ANSWERS.

66. Q. Can a weed inspector be prosecuted for wantonly driving through a man's crop?

A. No; but he should be. (See Nos. 20, 87, 58.)

67. Q. If owner is notified in 1914 to summerfallow a piece of land in 1915, and in the meantime sells the land, does the new owner have to carry out the order regardless of whether or not he has been made acquainted with the existence of such an order when purchasing the land?

A. The order applies to the land and must be carried out. If order is disregarded and land seeded, the inspector for 1915 should take action under section 11 and section 12 of The Noxious Weeds Act. A new owner of the land accepts all its responsibilities—if he does not know about the order it is his own fault, because he could find out by inquiring at the municipal office. (See Nos. 7, 26, 40, 54.)

68. Q. Regarding summerfallowing, seeding down and cutting crops for Canada thistle and perennial sow thistle where the consent of the councillor is required—what if the weeds in question are on the farm of the councillor?

A. Take what action is possible under sections 6 and 7, and if this fails, prosecute under section 5 and section 11 and action under section 12. (See Nos. 27, 47.)

69. Q. Suppose the fines imposed are cheaper than destroying the weeds?

A. Take the same action over again.

70. Q. Many men do not wish to burn screenings. What then?

A. Let them take them away in bags or else fence the straw and screenings, but do not give them more than all winter to do this. (See, also, Nos. 7, 44, 18.)

71. Q. What authority has an inspector to touch growing crops?

A. See section 6 of The Noxious Weeds Act and paragraphs 24 to 26 of this pamphlet.

72. Q. Suppose because of poor mail delivery the owner does not receive the legal five days' notice?

A. In the first place, it is the owner's business to keep his weeds under control, without waiting for a notice from a weed inspector. Secondly, a weed inspector should allow on his notice plenty of time for the notice to reach the owner. Thirdly, there is always the common sense thing to do. If the attitude of the owner is right, then he should be given as much latitude as possible; if not, then he should be tied down closely. (See, also, Nos. 8, 13, 14, 21, 31, 80.)

73. Q. Can a weed inspector compel a man to destroy weeds in a specified manner, regardless of his desire to destroy them in some other way?

A. Yes; the point is to have the weeds destroyed; the particular way this is accomplished is immaterial. Often, however, it is used as a means, by the owner, of evading his duty and whenever the inspector suspects this to be the reason for the difference of opinion on the part of the owner, he would be justified in insisting that the matter be handled as he had suggested. (See, also, No. 8.)

74. Q. In case of dispute over the kind of grass seed to use, what should the inspector do?

A. Advisable to use western rye grass. (See, also, Nos. 7, 34, 55.)

75. Q. If the weed inspector takes action under sections 7, 8 or 12, can he be sued for damages?

A. The weed inspector acts only after those responsible have refused or neglected to do their duty. The inspector is the municipal representative of the people. He cannot be successfully prosecuted for doing the common sense thing in handling these problems. Such people might in turn be prosecuted under sections 5 and 11. (See, also, Nos. 8, 22.)

76. Q. In the event of the weed inspector taking action under sections 7, 8 or 12, and putting men at work to carry out his orders, can the owner of the land interfere?

A. Most decidedly not. (See, also, Nos. 90, 89, 28, 8, 9, 13, 3, 10, 11.)

77. Q. Suppose the section foreman is doing the best he can but is still unable to keep the weeds on the right of way under control, what action should the inspector take?

A. Write the superintendent of the district in question, giving particulars and send a copy of the letter to the Weeds Commissioner, Regina. (See, also, Nos. 12, 30.—)

78. Q. How shall an inspector decide whether or not grain has been sold for seed?

A. If it was used for seed, if a seed price was paid, or if it was advertised for seed. (See, also, Nos. 16, 41, 79, 82.)

79. Q. What action should be taken regarding violations of sections 17 and 18 of the Act when clean seed and feed are very scarce?

A. About all that can be said is to let your good judgment decide. People must have feed and seed. Help them to get the best possible. After all, there is a good deal of truth in the statement that if a man cultivates his land with the object of producing the maximum yield

per acre, he will have little difficulty keeping his weeds under control. The trouble with many of us is that we are gambling with acreage, rather than farming with intelligence. (See, also, Nos. 16, 18, 19, 41, 78, 82.)

80. Q. When a weed inspector is giving notice has he authority to extend the limit of five days, as mentioned in the Act?

A. The spirit of the Act calls upon the inspector to use discretion and common sense in the performance of his duty and, wherever desirable, he can give more time by dating the notice in advance of the time it is served. The five days' grace commences from the date of the notice. (See, also, Nos. 8, 13, 14, 21, 31, 72.)

81. Q. A whole farm badly infested with weeds and the remainder of the neighbourhood fairly clean, owners poor but seem to be doing their best—what action should the inspector take?

A. If the man is doing his best and working along the proper lines, leave him alone, except in as far as you are able to suggest to him better methods. If he is not doing good work, and doesn't care, then lay out a system of summerfallowing that will lead to the control of the weeds. Have a quarter or a third of the land done each year, and see that it is done right. (See, also, Nos. 2, 6, 7, 23, 63, 91.)

82. Q. Can an inspector stop the sowing of dirty seed?

A. There is no section of the Act which gives direct authority to the inspector to stop the sowing of dirty seed. There are several ways in which such a problem might be handled, however. One is prosecution under section 5, because a man who sows dirty seed, when he could just as easily get clean seed, is not doing all in his power to keep his weeds under control. The man in question can be given to understand what he will be up against under section 6 of the Act, if he sows the dirty seeds. (See, also, Nos. 16, 41, 79.)

This question has been asked many times as to the value of The Noxious Weeds Act if there is no authority to get at the root of the problem and stop the sowing of dirty seed. There does not seem to be an adequate answer, but recently the department circularised most municipal councils of the province on this question, and there was not a great deal of support in favour of legislation on this question. Reasons given for lack of support were:

- (a) A municipality with a man in the field to inspect seed grain during the winter and assist in finding good seed, could practically stop the sowing of dirty seed without special legislation;
- (b) Some felt that the land belonged to the owner and if he were foolish enough to sow poor seed, when better could be obtained, well, the land was his own and his to do as he liked with;
- (c) That there was more authority in the Act at present than could be safely trusted in the hands of many municipal inspectors, and there was too much danger of legislation of this nature being abused to warrant its adoption at present.

Aside from all this, however, the writer personally believes that there is no reason at all why a municipality employing a qualified

agricultural secretary should not be given authority to constitute itself a clean seed district, and have a municipal bylaw to prevent the sowing of any seed infested with seeds of noxious weeds. It would be a simple matter to inspect all seed during the winter months and also very simple to locate any flagrant violations. (See, also, Nos. 6, 7, 9, 10, 45.)

83. Q. A field is sown to wheat or flax, but for several reasons there is practically nothing but weeds when the inspector sees it in July. The owner considers the land as being in crop. What action should the inspector take?

A. That some grain has been spread over a field in the spring, and a little of it has grown is no reason why it must necessarily be considered as being in crop. If there is not sufficient crop there to pay for harvesting, it should be dealt with under section 7. If the owner seriously objects, then deal with him later under section 5. He should have the full penalty if he prevents action under section 7 by agreeing to take care of the field after harvesting any supposed valuable parts, but does not carry out his promises. (See, also, Nos. 7, 24, 25.)

84. Q. Can a weed inspector change his orders?

A. Yes, if contingencies arise which give new conditions. In giving orders where the consent of the councillor has been necessary, the order cannot be changed without the written consent of this councillor or his successor. Don't make changes by word of mouth. Have all orders and changes certified to by the signatures of all persons concerned. Some men forget and they need to see their own name in their own handwriting to remind them of the stand taken by them on a previous occasion.

85. Q. In the case of neglected weed inspection in adjoining municipalities, towns or villages, what should the inspector do?

A. Notify the department at once—not after the weeds have gone to seed. (See, also, Nos. 8, 22, 75, 58, 87, 20.)

86. Q. If an owner fails to notify the secretary treasurer of an agent appointed under the proviso to section 8, must the inspector send any notice to the owner?

A. The Act does not require it, but as mentioned several times in this pamphlet, it would be no more than business courtesy to notify the owners. In many cases, it would save money for the municipality. (See, also, No. 36.)

87. Q. Can a ratepayer take action against a weed inspector for neglect of duty?

A. Yes, under section 25 of the Act. (See, also, Nos. 58, 66, 20, 22.)

88. Q. What attention should be paid to a man who boasts that there is no authority in The Noxious Weeds Act and that he would like to see the weed inspector try anything on him?

A. There will probably be an opportunity to satisfy such a man, because, generally speaking, his will be found to be one of the dirty and slovenly farms of the neighbourhood, but aside from this, pay little attention to him. (See, also, No. 23.)

89. Q. A piece of land badly infested with mustard adjoins the road allowance. Because of this, the road is very weedy. What action should the inspector take?

A. If the owner does not desire to keep the weeds on the road mowed down, then have him seed to grass a strip several rods wide as far as his cultivated fields adjoin the road allowance. (See, also, Nos. 4, 32, 33, 34.)

Note.—The Rural Municipality of Indian Head has an arrangement whereby it supplies the grass seed to any farmer who wishes to plough up and seed down the road allowance adjoining his land. It is being taken advantage of to some extent because the hay from the road easily pays for the work.

90. Q. When is an inspector justified in having unoccupied land ploughed to destroy weeds?

A. Almost never. Sometimes it is necessary, but one should remember that in so doing he is only preparing the land for a better crop of weeds next year. Some say, "plough it and then you will get someone to put it in crop." Possibly, but the business of the inspector is to give protection to adjoining farms at the least possible expense to the municipality. The plan in these cases should be to so act that the land will revert to grass as soon as possible. (See, also, Nos. 3, 10, 11, 46, 76, 86.)

REGULATIONS UNDER THE NOXIOUS WEEDS ACT.

91. Under the provisions of The Noxious Weeds Act, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, by and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following regulations:

CONCERNING THE POWERS AND AUTHORITY OF WEED INSPECTORS.

(a) Any inspector finding noxious weeds growing in any grain crop may, if such action would be deemed reasonable and expedient, notify the owner or occupant in writing to hand-pull such weeds.

(b) The word "growing" wherever it occurs in sections 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of The Noxious Weeds Act, shall be understood and interpreted as including weeds that have matured and ripened their seed.

(c) The expression "summerfallowing" shall be understood and interpreted as meaning: (1) the ploughing of the field specified at such time and in such manner; and (2) the previous and subsequent cultivation of such field in such manner and with such frequency, as the condition of the field requires and as the custom of good farming justifies.

**CONCERNING THE REMOVAL FROM GRAIN ELEVATORS OR WAREHOUSES
OF MATTER CONTAINING SEEDS OF NOXIOUS WEEDS.**

92. (a) Where elevators are so constructed that each farmer's wheat is cleaned before weighing and the screenings are kept separate, such screenings may be taken in sacks by the producer to his farm to be used as food for stock after the destruction of the germinating properties of the weed seeds.

(b) The managers of elevators may dispose of screenings and have them removed in sacks or other suitable receptacles, that will prevent the spreading of weed seeds in transit, to be burned, or to be recleaned, so that the shrunken wheat and other portions of value may be utilised and the small seeds destroyed.

(c) The managers of elevators may dispose of screenings containing seeds of noxious weeds to be removed in suitable receptacles that will prevent the spreading of weed seeds in transit to be used for the feeding of sheep if such animals are fed and kept within inclosures which are the property of the feeders and subject to inspection by weed inspectors.

(a) List of persons to whom screenings are sold shall be furnished monthly to the Minister of Agriculture by managers of elevators.

SECTIONS 15, 16 AND 17 OF THE SEED CONTROL ACT OF CANADA.

93. Section 15. "Any purchaser of seeds, with respect to which he has reason to suspect or believe that any provision of this Act has been violated, or any person charged with the enforcement of this Act, at his request, may take a sample from the said seeds and forward it to such person as the Governor in Council appoints as an official seed analyst to examine and report upon any seed submitted for analysis under the provisions of this Act."

Section 16. "Any sample of seed taken for official analysis under the provisions of this Act shall be taken in the presence of:

(a) "The person who sold or offered, exposed or had in his possession for sale the said seeds; or

(b) "Two impartial or noninterested witnesses; and, in accordance with the rules for seed testing prescribed by the Minister of Agriculture, and shall be inclosed in a sealed package, together with a certified statement of the person taking the sample, which statement shall include the name and address of the person who sold, or offered, exposed or had in his possession for sale, the seeds from which the said sample was taken, the manner in which the receptacle, package, sack or bag was marked, and the section or sections of this Act in violation of which the said seeds were found or suspected to be sold or offered, exposed or had in possession for sale."

Section 17. "Any sample of seed taken from any seed which is found or suspected to be sold in violation of the provisions of this Act shall be taken and forwarded to an official seed analyst:

(a) "From seeds that are sold in sealed packages, sacks, bags or receptacles, at the time of the breaking of the seal thereon; and

- (a) For seed of oats, barley, wheat or other seeds similar in size, one weed seed in one pound avoirdupois;
- (b) For seed of white clover and grasses, five weed seeds in one ounce avoirdupois.

3. Nothing in these regulations shall be construed to apply to timothy, red clover, alfalfa or alsike seed that may be marked with a designation of the grade of seed "Extra No. 1" as defined in section 8, clause (a) of the Act.

4. The percentage standards of vitality for good seed of the various kinds of cereals, grasses, clovers, forage plants, flax, field root and garden vegetable crops shall be as follows:

| | <i>Percentage Germination</i> |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| For cereal grains, flax, Indian corn and millet..... | 95 |
| For peas, beans and vetches..... | 90 |
| For red clover, alfalfa, alsike, white and other clovers..... | 95 |
| For timothy, chickfoot and meadow fescue..... | 90 |
| For all other grasses..... | 80 |
| For mangel and beet (160 sprouts from 100 balls) balls .. | 90 |
| For turnip, swede, rape, radish, cabbage and cauliflower.. | 90 |
| For spinach and carrot..... | 80 |
| For celery, parsley and parsnip..... | 65 |
| For onion, leek and tomato..... | 90 |
| For lettuce..... | 95 |
| For cucumber, melon, squash and other cucurbits..... | 90 |

Copies of The Seed Control Act can be obtained by writing to the Seed Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Copies of The Noxious Weeds Act can be obtained by writing to the Weeds Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, Regina.

Department of Agriculture,
Weeds and Seed Branch,
Regina, Sask., April, 1916.

Additional copies of this pamphlet can be obtained by writing the Weeds Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, Regina, and asking for Bulletin No. 44.